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The Hon. Minister has answered that the Government are watching the working of the Act. Will the Government call for a report now at least and rectify the defects? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Piecemeal reports are received now and then. What I said was that there was no regular report like the reports which we get about the working of some other departments."

Tour of Hon. Ministers in Kangayam Constituency.

* 155 *Q.*—SRI A. VELOO (on behalf of Sri P. Rangaswami Reddiar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether some Hon. Ministers toured the Kangayam Constituency in connexion with the election propaganda in support of the Congress candidate in the bye-election to the Madras Legislative Assembly held on 8th November 1953;

(*b*) if so, for how many days they toured in the said constituency and how many public meetings they addressed; and

(*c*) the expenditure to Government, if any, on account of these tours?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The two Ministers hailing from the district and the Minister for Local Administration addressed meetings and toured in the area.

" (*b*) About 10 meetings in all and about two days each.

" (*c*) Ministers claimed no allowance from Government on account of such tours."

National Extension Service in South Kanara.

* 156 *Q.*—SRI M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the area selected for development under the National Extension Service in the district of South Kanara; and

(*b*) the total amount allotted for the district under the scheme for the year 1953–54?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) (1) *Manjeshwar Block* consisting of the Kumbla and Manjeshwar firkas.

(2) *Sullia Block* comprising the Sullia and Nileshwar firkas.

" (*b*) An expenditure of about Rs. 1 lakh may be incurred in the two blocks during the current financial year."

Admission to Medical Colleges.

* 157 *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Medical Colleges in the State: and

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(*b*) the number of applications received for admission to the Medical Colleges in the State for 1952–53?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Two Government Colleges and two private colleges.

" (*b*) The total number of applications received for admission to the Government Medical Colleges in the State during 1952–53 was 1,268."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, the number of seats available is totally inadequate with reference to the growing demand for medical education and the provision of medical facilities in the State. Will the Government take steps to accelerate the provision of more facilities for medical education and training?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. Attempts are being made to start the Madurai Medical College from July next."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" May I know the number of seats available in the four colleges in the State?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The seats available are 135 in the Madras Medical College, 110 in the Stanley Medical College, 100 in the Kasturba Gandhi Medical College, and I think 50 in the Vellore Medical College."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASAMY :—" May I know the number of seats that will be available at the Madurai Medical College?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" To begin with, it will be 50 and the number will be increased to 100 in two years."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" May I know the number of backward class candidates who were refused admission to the medical colleges in the City of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" In the first selection, backward class candidates are selected on the ground of merit. Over and above that, 25 per cent of the seats are reserved for them."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In my opinion, the Hon. Minister is evading the question. How many applications were received from backward communities for admission into these four colleges and how many were admitted? From the answer given, we can deduce the number of applications rejected."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" My question was briefer than the question put by Sri Vinayakam!" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have no separate figures regarding the applications received from backward classes. I have given the figure about the total number of applications received."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Minister wants notice."